original story by Gerry Urban who was in touch with me

Zapruder Film Selling For $30,000

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HOUSTON, Sept. 4—Copies of the Zapruder film, a copyright home movie of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, are being sold for as much as $30,000 by the filmmaker's son, the Houston Chronicle reported in today's editions.

The film, one of the most famous home movies in history, is being sold 25 years after Kennedy's death at $30,000 a copy by a company run by Henry Zapruder, the son of Abraham Zapruder, the Chronicle said.

Chip Selby, a University of Maryland graduate student, sought permission from Henry Zapruder to use the 22-second color film in a documentary he is preparing and eventually would like to sell for educational purposes. Selby told the newspaper that Zapruder has maintained that Selby must pay $30,000.

"I explained to him [Henry Zapruder] that I was a graduate student and I didn't have that kind of money to pay," Selby told the newspaper.

Zapruder, a District of Columbia tax attorney whose father died in 1970, would not comment on his discussions with Selby, but he discussed his general policy on the film.

"Anybody who is using it for their own use, research, showing it to students, colleges, can have it free of charge, other than the costs of printing the film. But if they're going to make commercial use of it, then we charge," said Zapruder, who sells the rights to the film through the family business, LMH Co.

Selby told the newspaper he obtained a $75 bootlegged Canadian copy of the film, but an assistant to Zapruder told him he would be sued if he does not pay the $30,000 for nonexclusive rights.

Richard B. Stolley, who purchased the film for Time Inc. from Abraham Zapruder in 1963, said the price of the film was $20,000 in 1987 and "probably would go up this year."

Although the Zapruder family owns the original film and the film rights, the original 8-mm film is being held on behalf of the family at the National Archives.